

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A mobile voice communication device comprising:
a wireless transceiver circuit for transmitting and receiving voice communications and for receiving data;
a digital processor; and
a memory storing application program code which when executed on the digital processor causes the mobile voice communication device to provide predetermined functionality to the user of the mobile voice communication device, said predetermined functionality having basic features and having enhanced features that are in addition to the basic features, said application program code having a deactivated state in which the mobile voice communication device provides said basic features to the user without providing said enhanced features and an activated state in which the mobile voice communication device provides the enhanced features, and wherein toggling between the deactivated and activated states is accomplished by receiving through the wireless transceiver circuit a transmitted key that was sent by a remote source to that mobile voice communication device.

2. (Original) The mobile voice communication device of claim 1, wherein the mobile voice communication device is a cellular telephone.

3. (Original) The mobile voice communication device of claim 1, wherein the predetermined functionality that is provided by the application program code is speech recognition.

4. (Original) The mobile voice communication device of claim 1, wherein the transmitted key is an activation key that switches the application program code from the deactivated state to the activated state.

5. (Original) The mobile voice communication device of claim 1 wherein the transmitted key uniquely identifies the selected device among the plurality of wireless communication devices.

6. (Original) A method for generating revenue comprising:
establishing an account for each of a plurality of wireless voice communication devices, wherein on each of said wireless communication devices there is an application program for providing predetermined functionality for that wireless communication device, said predetermined functionality including basic features and also including enhanced features that are in addition to the basic features, said application program having a deactivated state in which the wireless voice communication device provides the basic features to a user of the device without providing the enhanced features and an activated state in which the wireless voice communication device provides the enhanced features to the user;
selecting one of the plurality of wireless communication devices on which to switch the application program from a first state to a second state, wherein the first state is one of the activated state and the deactivated state and the second state is the other of the activated state and the deactivated state;
transmitting a key to the selected device, said key for causing the application program in the wireless communication device to switch from the first state to the second state; and
after the key is sent to the selected device, billing the account for the features provided by the second state.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the predetermined functionality that is provided by the application program is speech recognition.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the first state is the activated state and the second state is the deactivated state.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
prior to selecting one of the plurality of wireless communication devices on which to send the key, sending a message to the selected device for notifying a user that the enhanced features are available after a trial period for a fee.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the first state is the deactivated state and the second state is the activated state.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the key is an activation key that uniquely identifies the selected device among the plurality of wireless communication devices.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein billing involves periodically billing the entity for having access to the enhanced features while the enhanced features are activated.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
prior to selecting one of the plurality of wireless communication devices on which to activate the enhanced functionality, sending a message to that device providing notification of the availability of the enhanced features for a fee.

14. (Original) A method for generating revenue comprising:
establishing an account for each of a plurality of wireless voice communication devices, wherein on each of said wireless communication devices there is an application program for providing predetermined functionality for that wireless communication device, said predetermined functionality having basic features and also having enhanced features that are in addition to the basic features, said application program having a deactivated state in which the wireless voice communication device provides the basic features to a user of the device without providing the enhanced features and an activated state in which the wireless voice communication device provides the enhanced features;

selecting one of the plurality of wireless communication devices on which to switch the application program from the deactivated state to the activated state;

transmitting an activation key to the selected device, said activation key for causing the application program in the wireless communication device to switch from the deactivated state to the activated state; and

after the enhanced features are activated in the selected device, billing the account for that device for the enhanced features.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the predetermined functionality that is provided by the application program is speech recognition.

16. (New) A method comprising:

providing voice recognition software embedded within a mobile communication device, the embedded software including a basic functionality enabling a user of the device to verbally control at least one operation thereof; and

activating an enhanced functionality of the embedded software in response to a digital key, the enhanced functionality including a natural language capability further facilitating verbal control of the device.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the mobile communication device is a cellular telephone.

18. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the verbal control of the at least one operation enabled by the basic functionality comprises accessing telephone numbers stored in the mobile communication device.

19. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the verbal control of the mobile communication device facilitated by the natural language capability of the enhanced functionality enables the user to enter text into an email using spoken words.

20. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the verbal control of the mobile communication device facilitated by the natural language capability of the enhanced functionality enables the user to verbally operate the device without requiring the user to know particular commands for desired device functions.

21. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the verbal control of the at least one operation enabled by the basic functionality comprises performing proximate word recognition, and wherein the verbal control of the mobile communication device facilitated by the natural language capability of the enhanced functionality comprises performing complete word recognition.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein at least a portion of the complete word recognition is performed on a remote server.

23. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
billing the user for the enhanced functionality in response to a transmission of the digital key to the mobile communication device.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the digital key is transmitted by at least one of a carrier and a service provider.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the digital key corresponds to at least one of a password and an encrypted key.

26. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the enhanced functionality is activated by a carrier associated with the mobile communication device.

27. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the enhanced functionality is available free of charge during a trial period.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
sending a message to the mobile communication device notifying the user of the availability of the enhanced functionality for a fee following expiration of the trial period.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising:
upon the user failing to subscribe to the enhanced functionality prior to the expiration of the trial period, sending another digital key to the mobile communication device to deactivate the enhanced functionality of the embedded software.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

upon the user subscribing to the enhanced functionality prior to the expiration of the trial period, sending another digital key to the mobile communication device to activate the enhanced functionality beyond the trial period.

31. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

displaying an advertisement on the mobile communication device notifying the user of the availability of the enhanced functionality for a fee following expiration of the trial period, wherein the advertisement is stored locally within the mobile communication device and is displayed independently of any remotely-transmitted messages.

32. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

deactivating the enhanced functionality upon the expiration of the trial period, wherein such expiration is determined from an onboard clock of the mobile communication device.

33. (New) A method comprising:

providing voice recognition software embedded within a mobile communication device, the embedded software including a basic word recognition dictionary enabling a user of the device to verbally interact with the device; and

activating access to an extended word recognition dictionary of the embedded software in response to a digital key, the extended word recognition dictionary further facilitating the user's verbal interaction with the device.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the user's verbal interaction with the mobile communication device based on the basic word recognition dictionary comprises accessing telephone numbers stored in the mobile communication device.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein access to the extended word recognition dictionary enables the user to enter text into an email using spoken words.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising:

billing the user for access to the extended word recognition dictionary in response to a transmission of the digital key to the mobile communication device.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the digital key is transmitted by at least one of a carrier and a service provider.

38. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the digital key corresponds to at least one of a password and an encrypted key.

39. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein access to the extended word recognition dictionary is activated by a carrier associated with the mobile communication device.

40. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein access to the extended word recognition dictionary is available free of charge during a trial period.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising:
sending a message to the mobile communication device notifying the user of the availability of the extended word recognition dictionary for a fee following expiration of the trial period.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
upon the user failing to subscribe to the extended word recognition dictionary prior to expiration of the trial period, sending another digital key to the mobile communication device to deactivate access to the extended word recognition dictionary.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
upon the user subscribing to the extended word recognition dictionary prior to the expiration of the trial period, sending another digital key to the mobile communication device to activate the extended word recognition dictionary beyond the trial period.

44. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising:

displaying an advertisement on the mobile communication device notifying the user of the availability of the extended word recognition dictionary for a fee following expiration of the trial period, wherein the advertisement is stored locally within the mobile communication device and is displayed independently of any remotely-transmitted messages.

45. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising:

deactivating access to the extended word recognition dictionary upon the expiration of the trial period, wherein such expiration is determined from an onboard clock of the mobile communication device.